

## Message Text

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47

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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R 271135Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3306

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1709

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, GY

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NASC: FONMIN WILLS COMMENTS  
ON US DIPLOMACY AND ITS RESULTS

SUMMARY: DURING CONVERSATION AUGUST 25, FONMIN WILLS REVIEWED NASC WITH ME. THIS, THE FIRST OF THREE CABLES ON HIS OBSERVATIONS, CONCERNS US DIPLOMACY. HE WAS HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY OF THE EFFORTS US EMBASSIES HAD MADE PRIOR TO THE CONFERENCE AND OF THE PERFORMANCE OF THE US OFFICIALS ON THE SCENE. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S POLICY STATEMENTS OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, TAKEN COLLECTIVELY, SIGNAL A "REVOLUTION" IN US FOREIGN POLICY TOWARD THE DEVELOPING WORLD, ESPECIALLY TOWARD AFRICA-- HIS AND BURNHAM'S TOUCHSTONE IN JUDGING US POLICIES. END SUMMARY.

1. INTRODUCTION: FONMIN FRED WILLS, DURING AN EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH ME AUGUST 25 IN HIS OFFICE, RECOUNTED HIS EXPERIENCES AND IMPRESSIONS AT THE NASC IN COLOMBO. HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE  
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AFFAIR GENERALLY TALLIED WITH THAT CONVEYED IN EMBASSY COLOMBO'S

REPORTING. HIS REMARKS COVERED US DIPLOMACY, THE BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDES OF OTHER COUNTRIES, THE KOREA AND PUERTO RICO ISSUES, IMPACT THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION HAD ON THE CONFERENCE AND OTHER LESSER MATTERS. THIS FIRST MESSAGE COVERS HIS COMMENTS CONCERNING US DIPLOMACY AND ATTITUDES OF CERTAIN OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. WILLS GREETED ME WITH CONGRATULATIONS ON "THE JOB YOU GUYS DID" IN PREPARING FOR THE CONFERENCE. THE INTEREST THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD SHOWN IN THE NASC WAS EVIDENT, HE SAID, FROM THE FACT THAT NAM DELEGATIONS FROM ALL OVER WERE FAMILIAR WITH US POSITIONS. HE WAS IMPRESSED AT THE WORK US EMBASSIES HAD ACCOMPLISHED, AND SAID US OFFICIALS IN COLOMBO (HE MENTIONED JAY KATZEN) HAD DONE EXCELLENT WORK.

3. AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN WHAT WILLS DESCRIBED AS THE IMPROVED CLIMATE TOWARD THE US WAS THE EFFECT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECHES DURING THE PAST EIGHT OR NINE MONTHS. HE CHARACTERIZED THE SECRETARY'S SERIES OF SPEECHES ON THE DEVELOPING WORLD AS SIGNALING A "REVOLUTION" IN US POLICY. THE IMPACT OF THE SECRETARY'S BOSTON SPEECH, SAID WILLS, HAD BEEN ESPECIALLY STRONG AND POSITIVE. "EVERYONE" HAD READ IT. IN ADDITION, RECENT US INITIATIVES ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN AFFAIRS, PARTICULARLY NAMIBIA, HAVE BEEN WELCOMED BY THIRD WORLD NATIONS.

4. THE IMPRESSION WILLS AND OTHERS HAD RECEIVED IS THAT THE UNITED STATES IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTERESTED IN AND SENSITIVE TO PROBLEMS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE RESULT OF EFFECTIVE US DIPLOMACY, EVIDENCE OF US SYMPATHETIC INTEREST, AND RECENT US POLICY ATTITUDES TOWARD AFRICA WAS THAT THE OVERALL ATMOSPHERE AT COLOMBO WAS MORE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TOWARD THE UNITED STATES THAN HAD BEEN THE CASE AT PREVIOUS NAM MEETINGS.

5. COUNTRIES WHOSE DELEGATIONS HAD EXHIBITED HIGHLY POSITIVE ATTITUDES TOWARD THE UNITED STATES WERE KENYA, ETHIOPIA, ZAIRE, AND THE IVORY COAST IN AFRICA. IN ASIA, MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES FORMED WHAT WILLS DESCRIBED AS THE "ANTI-COMMUNIST" GROUP. OF THE PERUVIANS, WILLS EXCLAIMED HIS AMAZEMENT AT HOW "PRO-AMERICAN" THEY HAD SUDDENLY BECOME. WILLS SAID HE GOT THE FEELING THAT PERU WAS NO LONGER TERRIBLY INTERESTED IN THE NAM. GUYANA'S CANDIDATE FOR PERU'S SEAT ON THE COORDINATING

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COUNCIL HAD BEEN PANAMA, BUT PANAMA "FOR SOME REASON" WAS WILLING TO GIVE UP ITS CHANCE IN FAVOR OF ALLOWING PERU TO REMAIN ON THE COUNCIL. SOME DELEGATIONS SUPPORTED PERU'S CANDIDACY BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT THIS WAS A WAY OF KEEPING IT INVOLVED IN NAM AFFAIRS; OTHERWISE PERU MIGHT DRIFT AWAY FROM THE MOVEMENT.

6. THE PANAMANIAN DELEGATION, EXCEPT FOR TORRIJOS' "BAD SPEECH", HAD SHOWN COMPETENCE AND MODERATION AT THE CONFERENCE. THE

PANAMANIAN "STAYED AWAY FROM THE PUERTO RICO INDEPENDENCE GROUP" AND AVOIDED THE PUERTO RICO ISSUE. THEIR DELEGATION AND FOREIGN MINISTER (BOYD) BEHAVED IN SUCH A MANNER THAT WILLS SAID HE AND OTHER GOT THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY "MADE A DEAL" WITH THE US CONCERNING THE CANAL AND ARE WAITING OUT THE US ELECTIONS. WILLS OBSERVED THAT THE PANAMANIAN ACTIONS AND PRESENCE AT THE NASC APPEARED TO BE PAYMENTS ON THE MAINTENANCE OF AN INSURANCE POLICY IN CASE THE "DEAL" WENT SOUR. TORRIJOS' PERFORMANCE IN PERSONAL CONTACTS WAS MUCH MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN HIS PUBLIC PERFORMANCE.

7. WILLS ALSO CLAIMED CREDIT FOR HIMSELF, BURNHAM AND THEIR DELEGATION FOR BEHIND THE SCENES NEGOTIATIONS TO INJECT "COMMON SENSE" INTO RESOLUTIONS. BURNHAM'S SPEECH, HE SAID, HAD CONTAINED A CRITICAL REFERENCE TO THE SOVIET UNION. WILLS COMMENTED THAT DENNIS BENN, GUYANA'S FONMIN ECONOMIC ADVISER, WAS CALLED AN "AMERICAN STOOGE" BY A CUBAN DELEGATE DURING ONE SESSION.

8. COMMENT: WILLS PROBABLY SHADED HIS ACCOUNT TO ME OF THE NASC PROCEEDINGS AND GUYANA'S ROLE IN THEM TO MAKE THINGS RELATIVELY PLEASANT FOR US EARS. NEVERTHELESS, GUYANA'S MEDIA TREATMENT OF THE NASC AND THE US HAS BEEN MODERATE (SEPTEL BEING PREPARED ON MEDIA COVERAGE).  
BLACKEN

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